WE NOMINATE

George Ryerson Griffing, one of the Princeton Area's outstanding public officials, who this week—with the Borough of Princeton launching its 137th year as a corporate entity—enters upon his second three-year term as a member of the Borough Council. Unfamiliar with the inner workings of municipal government when persuaded to accept nomination in 1946, Griffing took his baptismal campaign in stride, brought to his councilmanic duties the enthusiastic drive that has carried him to the top in the construction field and last fall paced the Republicans' victorious ticket by nearly 100 votes.

A resident of Princeton for the past two decades, this 44-year old native of Oyster Bay, N. Y., personifies the ideals traditionally sought in recruiting leaders in a democracy. His forthrightness, and refusal to compromise with what he felt to be essentials, were in evidence throughout the protracted "Greenholm controversy" and he was instrumental in having the "parallel-route" referendum placed on the November ballot. He has proved equally effective in less spectacular roles—a year as Council President, two years in the chairmanship of the Public Works Committee and a year as head of the Grounds and Buildings Committee.

Griffing, whose ancestry blends Irish, Scotch and Welsh ingredients, demonstrated his qualifications for success in his middle-'teens upon completing his high school studies. He went to work in a chain grocery store, where he had previously learned the ropes in after-school hours and during vacations, and within months was named branch-manager at a salary that enabled him to save enough money to continue his education on his own. He promptly entered Brooklyn's Pratt Institute, earning his certificate in architecture in 1926, the year he joined the Matthews Construction Co.

First as a time-keeper and then as an assistant superintendent, Griffing accumulated the know-how that led to his transfer in the late 1920's to Matthews' Princeton offices, the headquarters of the company which has built 60 per cent of Princeton's major buildings. Twelve years experience with "quantity survey," or the analysis of the materials used in structures, led to his advancement in 1941 to the position of estimator, the executive charged with laying the "groundwork" for, and then expediting, such undertakings as the University's $2,000,000 Dillon Gymnasium.

For believing that "it is a privilege to live in Princeton and even a greater privilege to serve Princeton;" for constantly striving to interest more and more Princetonians in Princeton's problems; for holding no one to any higher standards of service then he himself is willing to adhere to; he is TOWN TOPICS' nominee for

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Town Topics

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DAN D. COYLE
Editors and Publishers

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Advertising Rates on Application
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Vol. IV, No. 43 January 1-7, 1950

Topics of the Town

End of an Era. When midnight struck on Saturday, it would be more than the end of another year or even of another decade. The first half of the 20th century was taking its place in history.

During its span, the Princeton community had grown from a somnolent village of 4,800 to a hustling residential community of 17,000 that now drew the national spotlight more frequently than any town of comparable size throughout the U. S. In common with other Americans, Princetonians had come to know the automobile, the airplane, radio and television. They had seen skirts go up and come down again; bars run dry and become wet again; prosperity swallowed by a depression, to emerge and sky-rocket the cost of living again.

And in common with the rest of the world, they had known two horrendous wars from which some of their menfolk had returned wounded for life, and others had not returned at all. They had been drawn irresistibly into the Atomic Age, whose dawn had been created more by residents of their own town than by any other community on earth.

As the year neared that brought the 21st century closer than the 19th, their hopes and prayers were for three world-wide achievements: prosperity, progress and peace. And the greatest of these was peace.

Four Who Died. Three newspaper stories appearing on Christmas Day recorded details over which all Princeton might well ponder:

(From The Trenton Times-Advertiser)

PRINCETON—A flash fire exploding from an oil stove through a one-story wooden shack on Clay Street took the lives of four persons in the pre-dawn hours of Christmas Eve. The tragedy was one of the worst of its kind in the history of this community.

The dead were Catherine Williams, who was employed at a Prospect Street eating club; Mrs. Frances Whitehead, unemployed; Isaiah Harris, also unemployed; and Murray Weston, a construction laborer. All were in their 40's.

The alarm was sounded at 5:22 A. M. Even before the Princeton Fire Department could respond, the combustible shack was a mass of flames. Mack Scott, a 65-year-

—Continued on Page 3

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TOPICS OF THE TOWN

—Continued from Page 2

old neighbor of the victims, reported that he heard screams from within the building but was unable to approach it because of the intense heat.

The stove was in the middle of the one-room shack, whose dimensions were 12 by 24 feet. Firemen said that burning oil spread to the floor and walls so quickly that the occupants never had a chance to escape. Two bodies were found in bed and two on the floor, all badly burned but still identifiable by neighbors.

(From the Associated Press)

WASHINGTON—Loans totalling $15,286,600 for Federal low-cost housing projects have been approved by President Truman. Among the communities for which funds are ear-marked is the borough of Princeton, which will receive $20,000 to cover the cost of a preliminary survey in the area bounded by Clay, John, Lytle and Witherspoon Streets.

(From The Newark Sunday News)

Paragraph four of the story on the fire:

Probable cause of the tragedy is listed on police records as an exploding kerosene heater. A sociologist, however, might argue that the tragedy was a direct result of the slum area in which such living quarters existed.

Problem of Space Solved? In a book which the Princeton University Press will publish next February, Albert Einstein of 112 Mercer Street will give what he calls "a generalized theory of gravitation." A mathematical description of the mystery of gravity, it may explain every physical motion in the universe, including the laws that govern the enormous galaxies of outer space.

The white-haired, 70-year-old resident of 112 Mercer Street, whose theory of relativity four decades ago led to the eventual manufacture of the atom bomb, admits his new formula is so theoretical that he knows of no way to test it. The time will come, however, and when it can be proved in practical fashion, his contemporaries believe he may be credited with the highest scientific achievement of all time. A broad guess is the conquest of interplanetary space through the reversal of gravity.

Day after the announcement, Dr. Einstein was engaged in another familiar pastime—dodging the press. A correspondent for Reuters, the British news agency, and another for the London Daily Mail did not get by his secretary, Miss Helen Dukas. (Said the Daily Mail reporter to his New York office, "He lives in an unpretentious, freshly painted white house and has a horribly fierce dog.")

Life sent a photographic crew to his home, and reportedly met with better success. But the mild-mannered mathematical wizard undoubtedly feels he will have made his greatest discovery when he has found a way to announce world-shattering facts without having the press descend on him to report

—Continued on Page 5

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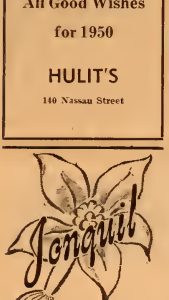

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Sports in Short

College Hockey. Four games in six days will provide Princeton's hockey team with a full share of action in the immediate future. Dick Vaughan's skaters take on Colgate this Thursday night, again on Friday—both games at 8:15—and then have a Saturday afternoon go at 2:30. Tuesday night, it will be the St. Lawrence sextet of Canton, N.Y., with its star-studded squad from Brooklyn.

Schoolboy Hockey. Devotees of the sport interested in watching stars in the making will have plenty of opportunity to do so on Monday and Tuesday. The second annual Lawrenceville Invitation Tournament will move into Baker Rink, featuring eight Eastern preparatory schools in a 12-game round robin.

Morning, afternoon and evening sessions are scheduled Monday, with the first battle set for an eye-opening 8:30 a.m. The semi-finals come Monday evening, with the winner td be crowned after the proceedings that start Tuesday at 2:30. The defending titleholder, Nichols School of Buffalo, N.Y., is seeded first, with Exeter second. The host school, Lawrenceville; Andover, Hill, Choate, Northwood and Taft are the other entries.

Four members of Exeter's strong squad are residents of Princeton. Exeter's captain and able center is Peter Rossmassler, son of Mrs. William R. Rossmassler of Springdale Road and the late Mr. Rossmassler. George Haekl, son of Mr. and Mrs. George F. Haekl, Jr. of 251 Bayard Lane, heads the New Hampshire sextet's second line. Listed among Exeter's defensemen are the Dennen twins, Bob and Bruce, sons of Mrs. Joseph R. Dennen of 90 Jefferson Road and the late Mr. Dennen.

Dick Swinnerton Jr., son of Richard Swinnerton of 5 Murray Place, a member of the University's Department of Physical Education and Athletics, is co-captain of the Hill team. His team-mates include Bevis Longstreth, son of Mrs. Bevis Longstreth of 25 Palmer Square and the late Mr. Longstreth, and Peter Lindabury, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard V. Lindabury of 34 Cleveland Lane.

Road Trips. In comaion with Cornell, Harvard and Columbia, Princeton's basketball forces have gone West this week. The Ithacans and the Crimson have been engaged in a round-robin tourney at East Lansing, Mich., while Gorden Ridings will take his Lions all the way to Oregon before a six-game, 6,000 mile trip is completed and they fly back to meet Princeton in New York a week from Thursday.

Princeton will be seeking an even break against two Big Ten opponents: Illinois Friday night and Northwestern Saturday. The Tiger's tail is currently dragging a 1-4 record around with it, and there may be more trouble ahead before they return on January 7.

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Closed: Saturday, December 31
Monday, January 2
Clearance Sale Starts January 3
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A Few Suggestions for Your New Year's Party
½'s Moroccan Sardines in Olive Oil—Special—2 tins for 41c
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TOPICS OF THE TOWN

—Continued from Page 3

in minute detail "how he spends his day."

Security for Sally. A seven-year-wanted so much to do something old whose mother wrote that "she for Sally" sent $1.25, representing many months of saving. A hospital volunteer who had watched Sally's mother "make a valiant effort for months to play her part out with dignity" sent a gift, adding "a prayer that some home may be waiting for Sally, with a family to be part of."

Gifts came from virtually every street in Princeton, from the near-by communities which Town Topics reaches; from Columbus, New Jersey, Sewickley, Pennsylvania, and far-off Haiti, where a copy goes by airmail each week. On Christmas Eve, the amount at hand was double the $500 originally sought, and by mid-week, 252 men, women and children had contributed $1,-218.91.

As has been the case in the past, the fund will merely be supervised by this publication, with every dollar spent given prior approval by the Social Service Bureau. Princetonians (from whom, in three years, nearly 700 gifts have raised some $3,350 for three desperately needy cases) have assured Sally of a foundation that may provide her with the security which every 12-year-old is entitled to know.

Christmas Cards Wanted. Don't throw away your 1949 collection of Christmas cards—take them to the Clothes Line on Palmer Square. Mrs. Thorn Lord has completed arrangements for packing and shipping them to the Betty Bachrach Home for Crippled Children in Atlantic City. You can be sure that the gay pictures and colorful scenes for cut-out and pasting activities will bring joy there long after the holiday season ends.

Elections. Officers of Prince Engine Company No. 1 have been named for the next 12 months and will be the first to administer the new firehouse of which the unit took official custody just before Christmas. Those chosen are Walter L. Conn, president, succeeding George Willis; Alfred Picker, vice-president; George Cahill, secretary; Walter Foley, treasurer; James Hagerty, Frederick Traegler, John Golden, trustees; Robert Davison, William Guinn, Robert McCloskey, foremen.

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Eighth Season

Ten Thursday Evenings

January 19 through March 23

A community project, supported by the Board of Education, the Princeton Adult School offers a variety of subjects for the interest and enlightenment of citizens in the Princeton area. The school is entirely non-profit. All courses except that in the enjoyment of music will be held on ten consecutive Thursday evenings at the high school.

REGISTRATION: January 12, 16 and 17 at the Nassau Street School

4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
8:00 to 9:30 p.m.

No registrations will be accepted by mail

FEES: All courses except music, $3.50 for ten one hour sessions; $7.00 for ten two hour sessions

The Following Courses Will Be Offered. Choose the Courses You Prefer and Register Early

ONE-HOUR COURSES
8:00-8:55 P.M. THURSDAYS

1. Modern Literature

Lectures on modern novels, films, and stage plays showing the relation between modern writing and modern life. Similar to, but not the same, as last year's course. Professors Alan S. Downer and Courtney C. Smith, Princeton University.

2. Problems of Adolescence (limited to 30)

A course for parents, teachers and group leaders. Round-table discussions of practical problems will follow half-hour talks on personal adjustments; social behavior; educational and vocational, economic, pre-marital, religious and recreational problems; attitudes of adults; methods of group leadership; and goals of maturity. Dr. J. K. Wallis, M.D., Psychiatrist, Princeton.

3. Beginning Bridge

If you do not know contract bridge, this course will teach you the fundamentals. Mrs. Tobias Brill, Trenton.

4. Advanced Bridge

If you already know the fundamentals of contract bridge, this course will clarify and expand the principles of bidding and play. Mr. Tobias Brill, Trenton.

5. Personal Typing (limited to 35)

This course for beginners will cover basic techniques for typewriting, business letters and manuscript typing. Typewriters for use during the course are furnished. Outside practice is desirable but not required. G. P. Gaydos, Princeton High School.

6. Antiques

Illustrated lectures on the romance and history of furniture, silver, glass and china by a connoisseur and popular lecturer in this field. Lester M. Slatoff, Trenton.

7. Square Dancing

Get into the "swing", don't be a "square." Learn to "do-ci-do" and "alemande left" from one of New Jersey's best callers. Get that exercise you are always meaning to take—in the fun and excitement of square dancing. Ed Porter, Somerville.

ONE-HOUR COURSES
9:00-9:55 P.M. THURSDAYS

8. Current World Problems and The UN

Lectures on current world problems arising in the United Nations and other world organizations. Topics will include: The UN —A Going Concern; Great Powers and Small Powers in the UN; Regional Security under the UN; The UN and the Palestine Problem; UNESCO; Russian Attitudes Toward the UN; The Charter of Human Rights; Communist China and the UN; Feeding the World; and Aid to Backward Countries. Lectures will be given by members of the faculty of Princeton and Columbia Universities.

9. Landscaping for Small Homes

This course, dealing with site selection, grading, drainage, driveway and walk construction, lawn-making, and selection and handling of plant material, will be presented by a professional landscape architect. H. Russell Butler, Jr., Princeton.

10. Indoor Golf

This course, primarily for beginners, will include a discussion of the rules of the game, instruction in the fundamentals of grip, stance, putting, and the use of the clubs. Harry Kinnell, Princeton.

11. Personal Typing (limited to 35)

The same course as 5, at the later hour.

12. Furniture Repair (limited to 24)

The course will include repairing and refinishing furniture. Materials will be available at cost. Bring a piece of furniture the first night. Richard Wood, Princeton High School.

13. Antiques

The same course as 6, at a later hour.

14. Square Dancing

The same course as 7, at a later hour.

15. Beginning Spanish

Conversation based on topics of everyday interest using vocabulary for travellers to Spanish-speaking countries. Some grammar included as a basis for further study. Miss Dorothea De Chiara, Princeton High School.

TWO-HOUR COURSES
8:00 to 9:55 P. M.

16. Beginning Shorthand (Gregg) (limited to 35)

A thorough study of the principles, brief forms, and phrasing of Gregg Shorthand, development of a basic shorthand vocabulary, and practice in dictation of simple business letters. Joseph Orulis, Princeton High School.

17. Water Color (limited to 30)

A beginning course in water color painting, covering techniques for handling the brush, color blending, mixing paint and matching colors. Advanced students welcome for criticism in composition and techniques. Miss Edith Margerum, Princeton High School.

18. Jewelry (limited to 20)

A course in the fundamentals of designing and construction of small pieces of jewelry, such as pins, earrings, and bracelets, of sterling silver. Fee charged for materials. J. Alfred Seitz, Princeton High School.

19. Sewing (limited to 24)

Instruction in simple sewing including use of the sewing machine and cutting patterns. Class time mainly for demonstration, questions and help on members' sewing problems. Miss Elizabeth Gibson, Princeton High School.

20. Tray Painting (limited to 25)

A course in stencilling with authentic Early American, Pennsylvania Dutch, or original designs, gold leaf application and japanning. No experience necessary. Members supply own materials. Mrs. Ralph Little, Princeton.

SPECIAL COURSE
Fridays, 8:00-9:30 P. M.
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21. Enjoyment of Music

This course is designed to increase your enjoyment of music, similar to but not the same as the course last year. No previous knowledge of music is needed—only an interest in enjoying good music. The ten programs will be built around ten different types of music and will include descriptions and comments. This course is given in cooperation with the Department of Music, Princeton University, using their fine record collection and equipment. The fee is $5.00. Mr. Charles Hamm, Princeton University.

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Rib Roast of Beef (Swift Premium)	65c lb.
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Freshly Ground Beef	49c lb.
Loose Sausage	45c lb.
Shoulder Lamb Chops	69c lb.
Pork Loin (Rib End) 3-4 lb.average	38c lb.
Pork Loin (Loin End) 4-5 lb. average	49c lb.
Spare Ribs	39c lb.
Swift Premium Legs of Lamb	65c lb.

GROCERIES

Coffee—Chase & Sanborn, Savarin, Boscul, Premier	83c lb.
Canned Tomatoes	2 cans 25c
Marcal Napkins	2 pkgs. 19c
Rival Dog Food	10c pkg.
Swift's Premium Corned Beef	12-oz. can 39c
Crisco, Spry, 3 lbs. 87c; 1 lb.	31c
Swanson's Chicken a la King	47c jar
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FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Fresh Broccoli	23c bunch
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Salad Mix	21c
Maine Potatoes	10 lbs. 49c
Tangerines	35c doz.
Fresh Cranberries	19c lb.
Cucumbers	2 lbs. 25c
Eggplant	19c lb.
Mushrooms	55c lb.
Diamond Walnuts	47c lb.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

News of the Theatres

THE McCARTER

"Shakespeare Without Tears" is the manner in which Margaret Webster's adaptation of two of the Bard's famous plays is described. The rollicking **Taming of the Shrew** will hold forth Thursday and Saturday nights and for a Saturday matinee. **Julius Caeser**, in modern dress, is Friday night's fare. Each is a good show.

Next Friday, January 6, is the first date for the revised program of Children's Entertainments, the Children's World Theatre Company presenting **King Midas**. Tickets dated October 26 should be used. Other dates are January 26, February 28, March 21, April 18 and May 16, with the tickets to be used in sequence regardless of the dates printed on them.

THE PLAYHOUSE

Holiday Affair (Thurs.-Sat.) is a happy-go-lucky romance offering humor, sentiment and good acting by Janet Leigh, Wendell Corey and Robert Mitchum. It's all about the constant battle between the two men for Miss Leigh's attentions, and while the outcome is obvious, the proceedings are satisfactorily enjoyable.

Adam's Rib (Sun.-Wed.) enables The Playhouse to start the year with a stand-out comedy that features excellent performances by Spencer Tracy and Katherine Hepburn. They're cast as husband and wife who, as lawyers, meet as the prosecuting and defense attorneys in the trial of a woman accused of shooting her husband. The plot is thin but always amusing in its lightness, and both dialogue and action frequently scintillate.

The Lady Takes a Sailor (Thurs.-Sat.) records the romance that develops between Jane Wyman and Dennis Morgan when he takes her captive on the submarine he commands and engages in secret undersea experiments for the Navy. Heavy reliance on slapstick to produce humor and action leaves the picture in a weakened condition..

THE GARDEN

The Fighting Kentuckian (Fri.-Sat.) casts John Wayne in a slow-moving Western set in Alabama in 1819, where he falls in love with a pretty French expatriate (Vera Ralston) and feuds with crooked river men. Long and often dull.

And Baby Makes Three (Mon.-Tues.) deals in marriage, divorce and pregnancy, treating all three lightly as it follows the escapades of a bride who faints on her way to the altar and is told by her doctor that she is soon to become a mother. Barbara Hale and Robert Young in a tasteless farce.

Stormy Waters (Wed.-Thurs.), completed in France three days before the Nazis entered Paris and smuggled for the duration into Bordeaux, uses the seaport of Brest as the background for a love story involving Jean Gabin and Michele Morgan. Good photography.

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Calendar of the Week

Saturday, December 31st

2:30 p.m.: Hockey: Princeton vs. College: Baker Rink.
9:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.: Hi-Y Clubs' New Year's Dance: Borough Hall.
9:30 p.m.: Watch Night Service, with Devotional Service from 11:30-12: Methodist Church.
10:00 p.m.: Watch Night Service, Witherspoon Presbyterian Church.
11:15 p.m.: Watch Night Service: Second Presbyterian Church.
11:30 p.m.: Watch Night Service, preceded by Social Hour from 10:30 until 11:30: First Presbyterian Church.

Sunday, January 1st

7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 11:00 a.m.: Mass, St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church.
10:30 a.m.: "Our New Year's Prayer.": Rev. Mr. Milton J. Nauss: Lutheran Service: Chapel, Westminster Choir College.
11:00 a.m.: "Forward With Christ Into the New Year.": Rev. Dr. Frank S. Niles: First Church.
Holy Communion and Sermon by Rev. Dr. John V. Butler: no Church School: Trinity Episcopal Church.
University Chapel Service, Rev. Mr. H. Kent Benbe: University Chapel.
Friends Meeting for Worship: Murray-Dodge Hall, University Campus.
Sermon, Rev. Mr. John W. Johnson: Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church.
"The March of Time," Rev. Mr. Lynn H. Corson: Methodist Church.
"New Life for the New Year," Rev. Mr. Benjamin J. Anderson: Holy Communion: Witherspoon Presbyterian Church.
"Forward With God," Rev. Dr. William T. Parker: First Baptist Church.
"God," Lesson-Sermon: First Church of Christ, Scientist.
"What Happened to You?," Rev. Mr. Roland F. Chandler: Princeton Baptist Church at Penns Neck.
"Just Another or a New Year?": Rev. Dr. William L. Tucker: Second Presbyterian Church.
8:00 p.m.: First of four evening services in observance of Universal Week of Prayer, sponsored by seven Protestant Churches of Princeton; speaker, Rev. Dr. Charles H. Erdman: First Presbyterian Church.
8:15 p.m.: Evening Service: First Church of Christ, Scientist.

Monday, January 2d
Legal New Year's Holiday

8:30 a.m.: Opening of Second Annual Lawrenceville Schools Invitation Hockey Tournament, involving eight leading hockey schools: other games at 9:40 a.m., 11:20 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.: Baker Rink.
Noon: Inauguration of Borough Officials.
Organization Meeting of Borough Council: Borough Hall.
Reorganization Meetings of Township Committee and Township Board of Health: Township Hall.
8:00 p.m.: Hockey Tournament Championship Semi-Finals: Baker Rink.
Observance of Universal Week of Prayer: Rev. Dr. Erdman: Trinity Church.

Tuesday, January 3d

Re-opening of Princeton's Public Schools following Holiday Recess.
8:30 a.m.: Consolation Games, Hockey Tournament: Baker Rink.
2:30 p.m.: Hockey Tournament Championship Final, Baker Rink.
8:00 p.m.: Observance of Universal Week of Prayer, Rev Dr. Erdman: Methodist Church.
8:15 p.m.: Hockey: Princeton vs. St. Lawrence: Baker Rink.

Wednesday, January 4th

3:00 p.m.: Basketball: Princeton vs. Dunellen: H. S. Gymnasium.
7:30 p.m.: Prayer Meeting, Princeton Baptist Church at Penns Neck.
8:00 p.m.: Observance of Universal Week of Prayer, Rev. Dr. Erdman, Witherspoon Presbyterian Church.
8:15 p.m.: Princeton Township P.T.A. Study Group, "Manners and Morals," Mrs. F. J. Darke, and "Struggle for Independence," Mrs. F. H. Nicoll, Darke Home on Laurel Road.
Mid-Week Meeting, First Church of Christ, Scientist.

Friday, January 6th

3:30 p.m.: Children's Entertainment, "King Midas" production of Children's World Theatre Company: tickets dated October 28th will be used for admission, McCarter Theatre
8:00 p.m.: Basketball: Princeton H. S. vs. B. M. I.: H. S. Gymnasium

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